

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 July 2015

Previous inspection date

2 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder shares regular updates about learning with parents. They exchange photographs and snippets of information that the childminder uses to plan activities and help her to assess children's progress.
- The childminder supports children's development of writing from an early age. They become confident in making marks and start to understand that letters carry meaning. This helps to prepare children for their future learning and eventual success at school.
- The childminder is responsive to children's changing ideas and interests. She dresses them suitably for changing weather, so that they can play in the garden where they are happiest. This helps children to learn in ways that suit them best.
- Children experience excellent risk and challenge as they climb, crawl and explore independently in the garden. This raises their confidence in their own abilities and they learn about keeping safe.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding about issues of a child protection and safeguarding nature. She has undertaken extensive training and is informed, alert and highly knowledgeable about keeping children safe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always maximise every aspect of the daily routine to extend upon children's learning and development at all times.
- Occasionally, children cannot extend their learning as much as possible because they do not have enough space to use some toys effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- review the daily routine to include even more opportunities for the children to engage in interesting and challenging activities throughout the day, for example, during snack time
- review the availability of toys and the space where children play to maximise children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including evidence of the suitability of household members, safeguarding information, children's development files and feedback from parents. The inspector also read the childminder's self-evaluation document.
- The inspector observed learning activities in the garden, conservatory, kitchen and lounge areas.

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder supports children's learning and development well. She plans for their next steps in learning and helps them to make consistently good progress. The childminder has an extensive range of toys and equipment and these are accessible to the children. This gives children a great deal of choice in what they play with. Furthermore, children move around the rooms and into the garden as their interests evolve. However, on occasion, children cannot extend their learning because they do not have enough space to use toys effectively. This is because there are too many toys out at one time. The childminder is flexible in her planning and responds to what interests children most. At times, the childminder does not fully use every part of the daily routine to effectively build upon children's learning, such as during snack time. Children see letters and words on display in the home and garden and enjoy attending the local library where they start to develop an interest in books.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children develop extremely close attachments to the childminder and her family. The childminder and her children are excellent role models, who show children affection, attention and patience. As a result, children display high levels of self-esteem. They seek the childminder out for comfort and reassurance, but are equally confident to involve themselves in activities and join in. The childminder gathers a wealth of information from parents when children first start. This means that from the very beginning, she identifies their needs and tailors her care to suit them. Children gently drift off to sleep and wake refreshed, happy and eager to play. The childminder makes sure that children eat healthy foods and have continual fresh air and exercise. The childminder meets children's personal needs swiftly and teaches them how to manage some aspects for themselves. For example, children blow their own noses and dispose of tissues in the bin. The childminder's effective support for all aspects of children's care needs means that children are healthy, happy and extremely ready and willing to learn.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

Children's safety is given the highest priority by the childminder. The childminder closely reviews the quality of her teaching and the standard of care that she provides. She has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and makes sure she uses up-to-date information to develop her policies and procedures. Parents are complimentary about the care the childminder provides and say that children are developing well as a result. The childminder is proactive in building relationships with other settings where children will attend in the future. She has plans in place for completing assessments, such as the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years, and plans activities to help them to move on to their next stage in education. As a result, she displays a strong capacity to maintain the good quality of care that she provides for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY297901
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	856461
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Deanshanger. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 2.

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